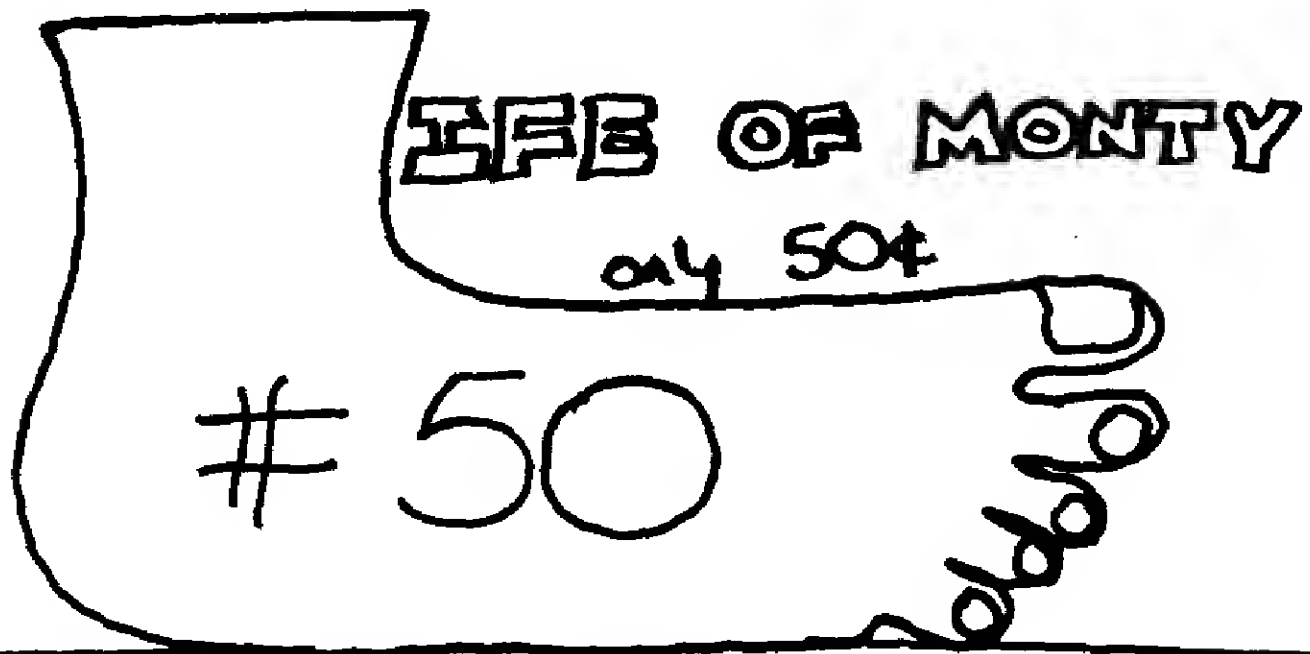


Somebody out there you want to let know that you mean business? Here's just the thing:



it's PIZZA CITY, if you get the idea! (How about STEAMROLLER CITY? PANCAKE CITY? WINE CITY? No, that's where ~~Bill Seligman~~ lives....)
Mark Stegeman

See pages 5 & 19

INSIDE - a nomination ballot for the 1985 LIFERS (see pages 5 & 19), an article on the Dutch Diplomacy hobby, the start of DIAPPY PURSUIT, and a lot of filler since the Dutch article is the only one I've gotten for this issue....

After 49 issues, 696 pages, games of KINGMAKER, EMPIRES OF THE MIDDLE AGES, THIRD REICH, SOURCE OF THE NILE, SECOND CHANCE DIP, and three games of DIPLOMACY (well, actually there were four, but one was abandoned), not to mention what's in the 'zine now, plus untold controversies, countless DIP BOWLS, numerous episodes of DIP WARZ, and what will soon be three postage increases, comes this FIFTIETH ISSUE of LIFE OF MONTY, brought to you by Don Del Grande, 142 Eliseo Drive, Greenbrae, CA 94904-1339, phone (415) 461-2692, but remember I'm at work until 5 PM Pacific time on weekdays.

And now for the traditional front-page (more-or-less) feature of this rag - er, 'zine.....

MONTY'S NEWS AND COMMENT is brought to you by the 1985 Cabinet Leaders and President Reagan - "Leadership that has work"

It seems that somebody in this hobby (i.e. ME, but I'm trying to keep low on this one) has seen fit to complain about the International Subscription Exchange, run by Stavs Knight in North America and Doug Rowling in Europe. (The ISE accepts subscriptions for foreign 'zines with domestic currency, and does the exchanging for you.) Apparently, this person sent away for a sub to Flame, and didn't hear anything in months. However, the fault lies not with the ISE, but with Simon Billenness, publisher of Flame, who has (finally) announced the fold of Flame. Apparently, Simon has sent the money back to the ISE, so I'm giving them a second chance....now watch Lokasenna fold and have this business start up again....

Speaking of folds, RAGING MAIN (ever notice that some people capitalize names of 'zines, while others underline them - but how many switch in the same issue?) will be folding very soon - more details to follow when the official announcement comes from James Woodson. (Ensign Woodson, by the way, is working his way towards Lieutenant Jr. Grade (equivalent to an army First Lieutenant), which he says he'll make in April. Who knows - someday he might make Captain and then he can get some desk job like the base commander at Naval Weapons Station (WPNSTA) Concord and have to work over jerks like me who think we know everything, mainly because we do.)

Remember "Friday the 13th - The Final Chapter"? Well, reports are in from Hollywood that there's another Friday the 13th movie coming out. What's this one going to be titled? "Friday the 13th - The Epilogue"? How about "The Reincarnation"? Or perhaps "The Copycat Killer, Part I"? Now this series is tied with "Planet of the Apes" in the ssquels department.

Well, now that the 1984 movie season is over, it's time for the annual LOM ACADEMY AWARD PREDICTIONS. Last year, I wasn't exactly close, but this year, it should be easy to figure out who Academy voters like. (Remember - how good the movies/actors/actresses are doesn't matter - it's what the Academy thinks that counts.)

BEST PICTURE - forget about the "save the farm" pictures - it goes to THE KILLING FIELDS, thanks in part to a large pro-Ed Asner vote. (Some people still remember "Lou Grant".....)

BEST ACTOR - no contest! Richard Burton in "1984" - this is his last chance at an Oscar, so he'll get it for "previous roles" as so often happens. (WHAT - not even NOMINATED? It's an OUTRAGE!)

BEST ACTRESS - Sissy Spacek and Sally Field have theirs - King Kong notwithstanding, Jessica Lange for "Country" gets it.

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR - who played the Cambodian sidekick in "The Killing Fields"?

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS - nobody's really stood out this year - nobody GOOD, that is! (I can think of two you can forget about - Bo Derek and Kate Capshaw.)

BEST SONG - If "Ghostbusters" doesn't win, the fix is IN. (Side note: watch the presentation - the song with the biggest production number invariably wins!)

Of course, GHOSTBUSTERS won the big award - MOST MONEY. That's all that really matters, doesn't it? Where does it rank on the all-time list, anyway? (Fifth, I think - behind E.T. and the three STAR WARS films.)

PAGE 2 turned down a nomination

Speaking of movies....my latest claim to fame is that I introduced John Caruso to Bill Murray movies (despite the fact that Phyllis Byrne is a big Bill Murray movie buff). It's a good thing it wasn't his ill-fated dramatic performance, in whatever that movie was called, or he'd probably never speak to me!

And now for the latest word from the feu-- er, dispute - of the century. Anyway, Doug Beyerlein and Rod Walker, among others, have been leaning toward an arbitration solution to this mess. I had similar thoughts, but there happen to be two flaws here: first, no one person should be in a position to make such a decision; perhaps a "Hobby supreme court" of some sort (three people? five? one hundred and thirty-seven?) could be assembled. Second, and most important, such an ombudsman or group of arbitrators can make what can even come close to a binding decision. For example, they can't order one side or another to stop printing certain things - there is such a thing as "freedom of speech". There could also be the risk of libel in the decision's statement. (However, one of the three "tests of libel", as made clear in the recent Time Magazine decision, is that a libelous statement must be made with the stater's knowledge that it is false; an arbitration decision couldn't meet this standard if it was fairly made.) The arbitors (or is that "arbiters"?) can't even demand an apology - nobody should be forced to apologize if they believe they are right. Finally, such a case will almost certainly come down to who can dig up the most evidence against the others.

For those of you who are still reading this, which means that you aren't tired of this feu-- er, disagreement - let me ask you this: take the following three "decisions" separately: (1) the "New York person" wins; (2) the "Massachusetts person" wins; (3) it's "called a draw" since neither side ends up being 100% innocent. Would you honestly accept the consequences to the affected party/parties in each circumstance? (Let be who is without guilt cast the first "no".)

OK, THE TALK ABOUT THE LATEST FEU--er, ARGUMENT - IS OVER. NOW, BACK TO THE STUFF THAT MADE LOM THE THING IT IS TODAY - yes, more garbage filler talking by your friendly neighborhood publisher.....

The PEERIPOLL results are out - unlike the other polls, this one rates 'zines in 11 categories, ranging from price and reproduction to house rules and stimulation. 11 people decided to vote for LOM (that is, vote on LOM); out of 53 game-running 'zines and 10 non-game 'zines and magazines, LOM rates 8th in scheduling, 4th in entertainment, 13th in game variety - and 40th in house rules, not to mention 51st in GMing. Speaking of GMing, the 11 votes included 4 non-applicable, 2 3s, and 1 zero. Somebody even gave me a zero in house rules! Why - because I have them for too many games?

OK, it's just about time to ask: which con(s) are YOU going to this year? The major choices are: MaryCon (late May/early June - exact dates unknown), ORIGINS (late June, in Baltimore), and DIPCON (late August, in Seattle). As for me, I have enough leave saved up (I will, that is) to go to ORIGINS - after all, I'm not a Dip-only type. (Besides - maybe I'll be very lucky and The Avalon Hill Game Company (don't call it Avalon Hill) will release ADVANCED SQUAD LEADER like Don Greenwood and Rex Martin say they will. Then again, maybe TSR will admit that they have more money than they know what to do with, courtesy of SPI's creditors.) I'll be lucky if I have enough money - or interest - for PACIFICON (Labor Day weekend) after ORIGINS, much less DIPCON.

Good news! I just got a raise - from \$8.25 per hour to \$8.54. Only nine months to go before I jump to \$10 or so per hour. (And after 33 more months, I'll get 3/8 of a day in leave per week instead of the 1/4 of a day per week now.) These figures assume there isn't a 5% pay cut and I don't happen to be fired, laid off, drafted, or something equally likely. (Could this be part of a plot in which the government hires all draftable college graduates so they can make sure where to go in case the draft comes back? Or is it just a coincidence that most of the high-paying high-tech jobs are for companies with defense contracts?

(Speaking of polls - now we'll see how many people really take notice of the Runestone Poll.....)

And WHO gave my house rules a zero?

Good night!

AMOUNT IN SUB or TRADE: XENOGOGIC

NOTES :

And now, to celebrate this 50th issue, Jan Feringa of Radijsstraat 11 B, 9741 BJ Groningen, THE NETHERLANDS, has contributed an article entitled "The Dutch Hobby, Differing Both In Size And Structure From The American".

Let's start with some history. On 3 March 1973 the first game of Diplomacy on Dutch soil is played, with a set bought in London. In 1976 Diplomacy game integrated in DUCOSIM (Dutch Association for Conflict Simulation). In 1977 DUCOSIM gets a zine, "De Conflictguzet", which among other things features postal Diplomacy. In the same year the first FTF-championship is held. In 1981 the first genuine Dippy-zine starts, Oxymoron from Jaap Jacobs (at #39 nowadays). In 1982 a second zine comes through, JM, a sound system to select the seven finalists for the FTF championship gets developed and Jan Perigna presents his postal rating system. Jumbo offers a Dutch Diplomacy-game.

In 1983 Brutus sees the light and the first seven players of the postal rating system are invited for the postal championship 1983.

At the moment we see a prospering hobby, with a growing number of members, no feuds, three major zines, two local zines and a smooth organization.

The three zines are:

Oxymoron, Jaap Jacobs, Vincent van Goghlaan 16, 2343 HM Oegstgeest. 32-36 pages. Digest (reduced to A5), stencilled. Offers Diplomacy (also International), Stab, Downfall, Sopwith, United, and lots of other postal games. A letter column now and then, occasionally English articles or letters.

Je Maintiendrai, Hauke Jansen, Beresteinlaan 385, 2542 JK Den Haag. 24-28 pages. Digest (reduced to A5) photocopied. Offers Dippy, United, Gesta Danorum, 1958. Sometimes it contains a letter column or a subzine, Famous for its good-looking-ness. Dippy-games are accompanied by maps.

Brutus, Teijo Doornkamp, Esdoornlaan 732, 9741 MT Groningen. 28-36 pages. Offers Diplomacy, Vain Rate, Sopwith, postal FRP, Snite Revenge, Stab. Letter Column, 4-6 pages, English for the biggest part. Some articles (especially FRP-concerning) are written in English too. Contains an English extract foreign readers each issue. Dippy-games are accompanied by maps.

The three zines like foreign players to participate and are willing to take steps to make up for the disadvantage in time foreign players have. The current FTF champion is Paul Michel. Because the 1983 postal championship still goes on, there is no postal champion at the moment. In April EUROCON will be held in Eindhoven, where lots of continental (and, hopefully, some British) players will meet.

*****Thank you, Jan, for the Dutch Dippy article. For those of you who may be a little confused about some of the things mentioned, I'll give a few clarifications:

"A5" - it's a page size, about 8 1/4 inches high and 6 1/2 wide. Standard digest is 8 1/4 by 5 1/4.

Sopwith - a WWI air-fighting game, similar to GDW's Blue Max (especially since, unlike The Avalon Hill Game Company's Richthofen's War, these games have no altitude differential).

EUROCON - the European championships, in Eindhoven, The Netherlands. "Continental" refers to mainland Europe. (Remember that Europe is a lot smaller than North America, and that a lot of Europe is behind the Iron Curtain.

~~THE WORLD IS COMING TO AN END GOOD SEATS ARE STILL AVAILABLE AT TICKET LOCATIONS-NI~~

Time for a plug....WHITESTONIA, by John Caruso, 160-02 43rd Avenue, Flushing, NY 11358 - well, to tell you the truth, John has been laying back lately, so the 'zine is mostly KATHY'S KORNOR by Kathy Byrne, the subzine with "Goseipy Sillinees", featuring a column by Kathy's friend, the Drunken Baglady, as well as the smart questions by stupid people thing. Get yours today, while you still have your sanity.....

PAGE 4 is a wild & crazy page

And now for the BIG ANNOUNCEMENT that usually comes with big "milestone" issues like LOM #50.....in the shade of Britain's Rusty Bolt awards and the late Eminent Awards of Mike Mills comes the first annual LIFER ACHIEVEMENTS AWARDS, otherwise known as the

1985 LIFERS

The Rusty Bolts mainly consist of "silly" awards, while the Eminent Awards were "typical" categories. Typical RB categories are "upstart of the year", "hobby heartthrob", and "strangest 'zine"; typical EM categories were "best 'zine", "best new 'zine", "best variant", and "best letter column". THE LIFERS won't include awards already covered by major awards - the Rod Walker Award's "best writer", the Don Miller Memorial Award for "distinguished hobby service", the DPP/Marco/Runestone polls for "best zine/subzine/GM/player" - but the demise of the Eminent Awards leaves a gap in the North American hobby that THE LIFERS intend to fill.

Here's how this thing works: with

- (1) Any person associated ~~in~~ the hobby - anyone who subscribes to a 'zine, or plays in a PBM game, or publishes a 'zine/subzine, or whatever excuse you can come up with - is eligible to make nominations. Up to 5 nominations may be made in each category per person. The 5 persons/'zines/whatever receiving the most nominations will be put on the final ballot; however, write-ins will be allowed.
- (2) Once the nominations are closed and the final ballots determined, any person associated with the hobby is eligible to vote. Only one person/'zine/whatever per category can be selected per person voting. Whoever/whatever receives the most votes is considered the winner; ties are not broken, but the tied entrants share the award.

The categories are:

- DIRTIEST FOLD - the 'zine which folds without making arrangements for its games, or takes subbers' money and runs, or anything else that made a 'zine's folding bad.
- BOBBY GENIUS - the hobby's smart guy, the one who knows everything.
(Perhaps the one most likely to win at TRIVIAL PURSUIT?)
- MOST BORING TOPIC - the thing you've heard over and over again in 'zines and hobby talk that you wish people would shut up about.
- MOST IMPROVED 'ZINE - "improved" is up to you.
- BEST 'ZINE FOR GAMES OTHER THAN DIPLOMACY - the 'zine you'd recommend for games other than Diplomacy or its variants.
- BEST 'ZINE FOR HOBBY NEWS - this one is self-explanatory.
- BEST LETTER COLUMN - again, this should be clear.
- BEST GAME OTHER THAN DIPLOMACY OR VARIANTS - your favorite game besides Dip or any of its variants.
- BIGGEST HOBBY PERSONALITY - the person you'd most associate with the hobby at the present time.
- and, finally, the big one.....
- TRUE HOBBY MASTER - the one person you believe to see all, know all, and especially control all in the hobby today.

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS is APRIL 20, 1985. There is a nominations ballot on the inside back cover of this issue. Send your nominations (up to 5 per category) to me (surprise, surprise). PUBLISHERS - PLEASE ADVERTISE. (It isn't any good if nobody hears about it!)

NOMINATION BALLOT on PAGE 19 -

this is only PAGE 5, you know

the

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SSS   PPPP   A   OCC   EEEEE
S  S   P  P   A  A   C   C   E
S      P  P   A   A   C     E
SSS   PPPP   AAAAA C     EEEE
S  S   P      A   A   C     E
S  S   P      A   A   C   C   E
SSS   P      A   A   OCC   EEEEE
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V  V   III   K  K   III   N  N   GGG
V  V   I     K  K   I     N  N   G  G
V  V   I     K  K   I     NN  N   G
V  V   I     KK      I     N  N  N   G  GG
V  V   I     K  K   I     N  NN   G  G
V      I     K  K   I     N  N   G  G
V      III   K  K   III   N  N   GGG
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This rare live epecimen of Dustin's greater Space Viking is believed to be the only one in captivity. This is a very young one, and fanga can grow up to sixty inches in adults. The greater Space Viking is a very resilient organism. It's range, originally confined to the fourth-generation Sword-World Gram, now is spread throughout the galaxy, centering on Tanith.

Please, do not feed the Vikings. NO flashbulbs or strobes.

Donated to the Monte Python Zoo and Animal Park by:

Dustin Laurence
620 Josephine Ave.
P.O.B. 50
Terry, MT 59349-0050

If you have read the book Space Viking the above will be more understandable.

INT(2*RND(jottings))+1 (The random jottings dept.)

Congratulations on #50 Don. Isn't it amazing, folks, that he got almost all the way to 50 without my help? Of course, He seeded that last little shove...That is, of course, why I started SV when I did.

So, Don complained about my margins lastish, did he? there are two things that he should know. #1. It is more neat and stylish to make a suitable border. #2. When you have a wordprocessor, it is easy to play around with the margins until the bottom of the page more or less lines up with the bottom of text. That way I don't have to worry about such things the way pre-WP pubbers do. Ease was a definite second behind taste, of course.

Be that as it may, this is the "NO WHITE SPACE" issue of SV. I wish I had colored paper, but I'm too cheap to buy some just for this.

Near the end of this month, if everything goes well, I may go to Mexico City. (As I have mentioned before, I travel. For most of this month I will be in South Texas, even though my address is Terry. All mail will be forwarded, as usual.) My uncle found out that a train ticket is only \$10 US one way. Uncle Bill was a missionary to Puerto Rico for years, so he speaks Spanish excellently. I have been in Mexico before, and I would not go there without someone who speaks Spanish if you paid me!

Speaking of trips, in the last couple of months I have gone through California, where I had the good fortune to meet the Langleys and Ken Gestiehr & family. In Sacramento, I knocked on a Langley's door end, when I entered, a third person was on the couch who called himself "John Gestiehr." This was a very enjoyable visit, talking to Langleys & John, examining Langleys' Titan game, marveling at Steve's book collection, etc. Diane Keeney was a local call away, so she and I talked for half an hour or so. I only wish I could have stayed longer. In San Diego, Larry Peery was sick, and he had to go to work that evening, so he conserved his strength and I didn't get to see him. However, Ken showed me around the city, then to his house where we played Bl nuclear bomber and especially Acquire 'til eleven. Ken Sr. won the first game and Kan Jr. the second. Thank you Ken(s). You're all a fine group of people.

PAGE 6 is surprised that DL actually sent in full pages this time!

Book Review

The Integral Trees

by Larry Niven

I don't know how to describe this book. It's incredible. Larry Niven has done something that I thought was impossible. He wrote a book that is conceptually greater in scope than Ringworld. Ringworld was, after all, a ring 1 million miles wide and 600 million miles long spun for gravity. In the Integral Trees, we have a rotating, breathable gas torus around a neutron star, and humans have colonized it, sort of. The Integral Trees are organisms that grow up to 100 klicks in length and are so named because wind bends them into a shape similar to an integration symbol. Also because of tidal forces, there is "gravity" at the ends of the trees. (Figure it out for your self. The entire tree is in orbit. The end closer to the neutron star is traveling slower than orbital speed, so it wants to fall into the star. The other end is above orbital speed, and wants to fly away. This stabilizes the tree and causes pseudo-gravity at the ends. As to the wind, remember that the gas is in orbit, and the ends are always moving too fast or slow.) This book is a must for all SF fans. The best book to come along in quite a while.

Muddled Meanderings Dept.

The Streaker

or

Haste Makes Waste

He lost the race on defaults
To a clothesline wire and dose of salts.
The urge was great and time was short
As he hurried through the backyard court.
He cut across to save some time
But tangled with the danged clothesline.
In a crumpled mess he was heard to say,
"I'd 'a never made it anyway."

Bloopers Dept.

How many of you have heard of Kermit Schafer? Almost all, right? Here are a few selections from Typo-Bloopers:

Funeral services for Ben Brady will be held tomorrow at 10 A.M. Mr. Brady, the famous figure in this town, suffered a stroke. With the loving care of his family, however, and the services of fine efficient nurse, he fully recovered.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas MacArthur are receiving congratulations of the birth of a daughter. Both mother and baby are doing nicely under the care of Dr. Donald Cloae.

AD: Don't kill your wife. Let our Bendix washing machine do your dirty work.

Uniforms with medals will be worn at the reception of General John Jackson, Tuesday evening. Trouser optional.

The minister said that the church widows were a disgrace to the parish and it was time somebody washed them.

WANT AD: Man to work on Nuclear Fissionable Isotope Molecular Reactive Counters and 3 Phase Syclotronic Uranium Photo Synthesizer. No experience necessary.

A Touch of the Bizzare Dept.

Here's something that I wrote up as a humorous touch to the schedule that I send out to the other players in my games, and thought that it would be appropriate here. (Also, it didn't take any work, I just inserted it from the other copy I had on disk. Wordprocessors are wonderful.)

I've designed my own custom database package, y-clept Amnesia. And, seeing as it's working so well, I've decided to market it. Main features are:
50 Gigabyte Tame Black hole, to replace your old, inefficient tape or disk

drive, and 128K of WOM, (write only memory) as a fast black hole to replace your old RAM-disk. This last feature is a great time-saver, reducing dramatically time-consuming access calls to the BBM system. (Black hole Based Mass memory) All is housed in an attractive pea-green cast iron case with purple polka dots on the console, pink status lights, and day-glo orange controls. Software utilitys include Nomistek, which replaces the keyboard input vector with the system reset vector, and Easyfile, which makes your files easier to maintain by destroying the load routine. To remind you that such tedious and confusing operations are no longer necessary with Amnesia, every time the system tries to call the load routine, Easyfile erases the disk in the drive, puts +3000 volts to the ram board, burns out the drive, destroys the I/O board, wipes the rom, gives your disk controller card epilepsy, and afflicts your CPU with several of the more inaidious and bizzare forms of malicious psychosais.

Available from Laurence Expert Systems for \$30095. (\$32095 with the optional 100 Gigabyte Hole equipped BBM, +\$1999 with 256K of WOM.)

And, for a free demonstration, just write me, heh, heh, heh.

The Letter Column

In one of the last issues, I commented on Mark Berch sending DD to me with the note that I should read certain pages pertaining with the Langley-Berch feud. I got a letter out of it, so I guess I came out ahead, though I don't really consider this kind of thing great lettercol material.

Dear Dustin Laurence,

In your subzine it the recent LOM, you referred to my editorial in DD #85 as having "blatant untruths". I deny that anything I said was untrue. I cannot give anything more specific than this blanket denial because you did not provide any specifics.

Accordingly, I am asking you to either a) retract your statement (which would then be the end of the matter), or b) provide a list of the untruths which I stated (in which case, I can issue a correction/retraction, or a rebuttal as appropriate).

If you refuse to do either a) or b), I will ask Don to print the following letter:

"Dear Don Del Grande,

in a recent issue of LOM, Dustin Laurence referred to my editorial in DD #85 as having "blatant untruths". I have written to Dustin, asking that he either list those untruths, so that I could respond intelligently, or retract his allegation. He has, as of this date, refused to do either. I deny that any thing I said in the editorial was untrue. I cannot give anything more specific, because Dustin has refused to be specific himself. It is a serious thing to charge a publisher with printing untruths. I ask your readers to consider the ethics of someone who would make such a charge, and then refuse to say what specifically he is talking about. Until he gets specific, his statement should be considered as totally groundless. For those of you who want to judge for yourself, you can get a copy of the editorial for the asking (Mark L Berch 492 Naylor Place Alexandria VA 22304) "

So: The choice of how to handle this is up to you. Its one thing if you disagree with my opinions; that doesn't bother me in the least. But saying that I printed things which are untrue is another matter.

c.c. Don Del Grande

Mark's rebuttal, or whatever, will appear along with a much condensed version of my reply to the above, in a future issue. After that, I intend to keep it out of SV. Feuds are inherently boring and most of all in the feuder's own publication, and SV doesn't need that.

This is PAGE 8 — Pages 9-12 are a
special MARY CON insert (even if
9 & 12 are blank...)

PRESENTING THE 3RD ANNUAL
MID-ATLANTIC DIPLOMACY TOURNAMENT

MARYCON 85'

AND

VARI-MARYCON

FOR VARIANT PLAYERS

FRI. 5/31: VARI-MARYCON
10:00am - 10:00pm

SAT. 6/01: MARYCON 85'
10:00am - 10:00pm

SUN. 6/02: MARYCON 85'
SECOND ROUND
9:00am - 6:00pm

AWARDS

COME JOIN US AT:

MARY WASHINGTON COLLEGE
FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA

(95 SOUTH TO RT. 3 F'BURG.

LEFT ON RT. 3, LEFT ON COLLEGE
AVE., RIGHT INTO THE COLLEGE.
DRIVE TO MONROE HALL.)



MARYCON 85'

REGISTRATION FORM

ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK OR MONEY
ORDER PAYABLE TO MARYCON FOR:

NAME: _____

() VARI-MARYCON (5/31)...\$35.00

ADDRESS: _____

() MARYCON (6/1-2).....\$50.00

() MARYCON (LOCALS).....\$30.00

TELE #: () _____

() VARI-MARYCON (LOC.)...\$20.00

MAIL TO:

TOTAL ENCLOSED.....\$ _____

MARYCON 85'

1309 HANOVER STREET

FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA

22401

PRICE INCLUDES: **

VARI-MARYCON: (5/31) LUNCH, DINNER, LODGING, BEER. (6/1) BREAKFAST.

VARI-MARYCON (LOC.): (5/31) LUNCH, DINNER, BEER.

MARYCON: (6/1) LUNCH, DINNER, LODGING, BEER. (6/2) BREAKFAST, LUNCH.

MARYCON (LOCALS): (6/1) LUNCH, DINNER, BEER. (6/2) LUNCH.

**WE WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ROOM YOU WITH THE PERSON(S) OF YOUR CHOICE.
ALL ROOMS ARE DOUBLE OCCUPANCY AND ARE CONNECTED TO ANOTHER ROOM: FOR A
TOTAL OF (4) PERSONS. THE COLLEGE WILL SUPPLY SHEETS AND PILLOW CASES.
YOU MUST SUPPLY YOUR OWN BLANKETS.

AND NOW....here are the starters for DIPPY PURSUIT:

KATHY BYRNE, 160-02 43rd Avenue, Flushing, NY 11358

JOHN CARUSO, same address

MIKE EHLI, Hamilton Box 60505, Univ. of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-6005

STEVE ARNAWOODIAN, 602 Hemlock Circle, Lanedale, PA 19446

PAT JENSEN, 712 Minnesota Avenue, Albert Lea, MN 56007

BRAD WILSON, Box 327 Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL 60045

Each player should send in his/her "category preference list", since this aids in determining which questions are asked (i.e. where your piece moves after each die roll, in accordance with the HRs). The categories (and corresponding board colors) are:

DIPLOMACY & VARIANTS (Blue) GAMES & PLAYERS (Pink)

'ZINES AND PUBLISHERS (Yellow) HOBBY AT LARGE (Brown)

DIP POT LUCK (Green) RANDOM TRIVIA (Orange)

Anybody not getting their list in will have it chosen randomly.

REMEMBER - you can change it at any time!

"Random Trivia" questions will be taken from the regular TRIVIAL PURSUIT questions - chosen from one of the 6 Genus categories (determined randomly for each question), including the Genus II questions when available.

DEADLINE for the preference lists is MARCH 2, 1985.

And speaking of Diplomacy Pursuit, here are the answers to last month's sample questions:

1. No sea areas don't touch any land areas.
2. St. Petersburg, Moscow, Sevastopol, Armenia, Syria, Tunis, and North Africa - 7 land spaces on map edges. (However, Sevastopol doesn't touch the edge of the conference map.)
3. Tunis, London, Liverpool, and Edinburgh are the four SCs not reachable by land from the other 30.
4. Which powers are in Youngstown but not in Diplomacy? I'm not sure! Fortunately, I'll only ask questions I know the answers to.
5. "rb21" is Second Chance Diplomacy, in which each player writes two sets of orders; when comparing the "first" sets, any units whose orders fail use their secondary orders.
6. Titles of VOICE OF DOOM games were astronomy terms.
7. The "Apis" game (in EUROPA EXPRESS) featured the Apis Fertility Curse - players tended to become fathers.
8. "TRO" was invented by Keith Sherwood.
9. 1981AS lacked an England player!
10. Mark Berch won the last DW demo game - didn't he?
11. There was one double issue of BRUTUS BULLETIN - 98/99.
12. John Caruso's dip games are in "Magnificent-7".
13. "Byrne Syndrome" ran Nuclear Holocaust.
14. There were 6 non-digest JUST AMONG FRIENDS issues.
15. VOICE OF DOOM had Mellow Yellow and Rinky Pink fakes.
16. John Boardman used the name Eric Blake.
17. Tom Swider's DUNE house rules are in THE GENERAL.
18. Vandalia, Missouri is the North American Hobby Population Center.
19. Konrad Baumeister won DIPCON in 1982.
20. Joshua Berch's middle name is Herschel.
21. There was ONE 1984 issue of ENVOY. (There was also one in December of 1983; the 1984 issue was mailed in March.)
22. The first two LIFE OF MONTY games were Kingmaker and Third Reich, both of which died because of player apathy.

Sorry about the
poor quality -
I got a bad
machine

22 1/2. This is PAGE 13 - if page 8 is on the left, then the MAFCON insert is missing.

TRIVIAL PURSUIT, ROUND 4 - Kathy, are you in this game or not?

KATHY BYRNE - from GHQ, moves 3R (B), 3G (GHQ)

1. (TV) On Superman, which of Lois Lane's associates did sister Lucy have an affair with?
2. (LT)*Who did fashion designer Bill Blass call "basically an ugly young woman from the Bronx"?

JOHN CARUSO - from OHQ, moves 1Y (G), 5O (Y), 1B, 5O (OHQ)

3. (LT) What member of the original Supremes was on welfare when she died in 1976?
4. (NN) What singer's London flat did Cass Elliot and Keith Moon die in?
5. (SL)*What six-time Olympic champion was known as "The Flying Finn"?

GREG DOYLE - from BHQ, moves 1O (P), 4O, 4O, 1Y (P), 5Y (R), 2P (G), 1Y, 6P (B), 2P (B), 1P (PHQ)

6. (EN) What planet's moon was the destination in 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY?
7. (EN) What Broadway play propelled Barbara Streisand to fame?
8. (AL) What actor's autobiography is All My Yesterdays?
9. (LT) Who did Daniel Ellsberg serve as a consultant to in the spring of 1969?
10. (GE) What is the warmest continent?
11. (GE) What's the largest train station in the world?
12. (EN)*What film featured the search for the perfect wave?

MIKE EHLLI - from OHQ, moves 4Y (B), 4O (OHQ)

13. (GE) What is the telephone area code for Los Angeles?
14. (SL)*What is the title of Muhammed Ali's autobiography?

DICK MARTIN - from BHQ, moves 6G (O), 1G (GHQ)

15. (SL) Who was Sports Illustrated's first sportswoman of the year?
16. (SN)*What goes up when an elephant senses danger?

BOB OLSEN - from BHQ, moves 2O, 4O (G), 3O, 1O (G), 5Y (R), 4O, 2O (OHQ)

17. (SN) What's the strongest muscle in the body?
18. (SN) What's the only place in Europe where monkeys live free?
19. (AL) What day of the week did Solomon Grundy die?
20. (SL)*What's the better-known name of the card game Twenty-One?

BRAD WILSON - from RHQ, moves 1P (O), 5P (B), 3P, 1P (B), 5Y (R), 2Y (R), 1Y (YHQ)

21. (RP) What song opened with "Tin soldiers and Nixon coming"?
22. (GE) What country did Venetian blinds originate in?
23. (GE) What city would you be in if you were feeding the pigeons in the Piazza San Marco?
24. (AL) What Shakespearean play features a character named Puck?
25. (AL) What forest was home to Robin Hood?
26. (NN)*Which country became alphabetically last in the United Nations when it joined on December 16, 1963?

NMRs this time are from Kathy, Greg, and Dick - two in a row for each of them! Here are the answers:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. Jimmy Olsen* | 2. Barbara Streisand* |
| 3. Florence Ballard (Mary) | 4. Harry Nilsson's (Mick Jagger's) |
| 5. Paavo Nurmi (no answer) | 6. Jupiter* |
| 7. Funny Girl* | 8. Edward G. Robinson* |
| 9. Henry Kissinger* | 10. Africa* |
| 11. Grand Central Station* | 12. The Endless Summer* |
| 13. 213 | 14. The Greatest |
| 15. Billie Jean King* | 16. His trunk* |
| 17. Tongue (Thigh) | 18. Gibraltar |
| 19. Saturday (Monday) | 20. Black Jack |
| 21. Ohio | 22. Japan (Italy) |
| 23. Venice | 24. A Midsummer Night's Dream |
| 25. Sherwood (Brad answered "Robin Hood") | 26. Zanzibar (Zambia) |

Scores after ROUND 4: BYRNE-YO/9, CARUSO-none/14, DOYLE-RO/15, EHLLI-BO/8, MARTIN-YB/7, OLSEN-GPRBO/5, WILSON-R/8. (Scores are: wedges/missed questions; "R" is brown.) Note that Bob Olsen can win if he gets the yellow wedge and the final question with no more than one miss.

DEADLINE for the next round is MARCH 16. Some of you haven't got the message: THIS IS BEFORE THE OTHER DEADLINES IN THIS 'ZINE (except for guest-GMed games)!

PAGE 15 missed its deadline

AUSTRIA (Wagner): A RUM S RUSSIAN A Bul, F Alb-GRE

ENGLAND (Martin): **NMR** Has F NWY, F ENG, F NTH, A LVP

FRANCE (Bjornsson): A Mar-BUR, A PAR S A Mar-Bur, A BEL S A Mar-Bur,
F MID-Bre, F PIC-Bre

GERMANY (Doyle): A Swe-PIN, F BOT-Stp(sc), A SIL-War, A RUH S F Bel-Hol
(no F Bel), A MUN-Bur, A Pru-LVN, A HOL H (unordered)

ITALY (Stegeman): A GAL S RUSSIAN A War, A SER S RUSSIAN A Bul, F ION
S AUSTRIAN F Alb-Gre, F Apu-ADR, A TUN H, A Tyo-TRI

RUSSIA (Lee): A BUL S AUSTRIAN F Alb-Gre, A Sev-ARM, A WAR H, A MOS
S A Stp, A STP S GERMAN A Swe-Nwy(nso)

TURKEY (?): Kenny Gestieher has resigned from the game. His father, Ken Sr., volunteered to take over the position, but I decided against this, although there is no "firm rule" against two related players playing the same position at different times. Ken also sent in orders, but I certainly can't accept these for this season since Kenny Jr. was the player of record.

TURKEY has A VIE, F SLA, and F AEG.

SUPPLY CENTER CHART - by the way, in SUMMER 1903, GERMANY retreated F Bel to HOL, and TURKEY had A Bul taken OTH.

AUSTRIA: Bud, YId, RUM, GRE - 3, build 1

ENGLAND: Lon, Edi, Lvp, Nwy - 4, even

FRANCE: Par, Bre, Mar, Spa, Por, BEL - 6, build 1

GERMANY: Kie, Mun, Bar, Dem, Hol, Swe, MEX - 6, remove 1

ITALY: Rom, Nap, Ven, Tri, Tun, Ser - 6, even

RUSSIA: Stp, Mos, War, Sev, MId, BUL - 5, even

TURKEY: Con, Ank, Say, MEX, VIE - 4, build 1

STANDBY CALL: Will MIKE EHLLI, Hamilton Box 60505, Univ. of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-6005, take over for Turkey?

Now for the "rules problem": In Summer 1903, Germany retreated A Belgium to Holland. However, Greg Doyle, the German player, took it to be that unit's Fall 1903 move as well, even giving it support. Greg, a retreat is considered a separate, free move; retreats can't be supported, but non-retreating units can't move, support, or convoy during a retreat period. After the retreat, the unit is considered "normal" once again, and is given an order from its new location in the next movement season. (This is why your "Army Holland" is marked as unordered above - once the retreating army retreated there, it is considered to be there at the start of Fall 1903, and can be given a Fall 1903 order despite its "move" in Summer 1903. OK? Now for the press, after I tell you....

DEADLINE for WINTER 1903 builds/removals and SPRING 1904 moves is MARCH 22, 1985. NOW for the press:

FRANCE-GM: Sure we write press. Ugh, err, did you mean good press?

FRANCE-ENGLAND: I can understand your confusion, but really, the legions of France didn't actually walk on water.

GERMANY-ENGLAND: Keep on playin', I'll write, I' promise.

GM-ALL: The reason I didn't call for an England standby is that Dick sends his orders with the results of his game - which are late.

ITALY-AUSTRIA: My Albanian friends are a little rough. I hope you got out safely.

GM-ITALY: He got lots of help.

ITALY-CUTIE PIE ENGLAND: How about a date? I won't tell Ed if you don't tell Ken.

PAGE 16 loves those big NMR letters - hates the MMRs, though

ITALY-RUSSIA: Can you believe what a nice guy I am? I can't.

ITALY-GM: Love these gunboat games. Who is this Bill Seligman guy, anyway?

GM-ITALY (and others): For those of you who don't know, Gunboat Diplomacy is Diplomacy without negotiations, and Bill Seligman is someone who lives 50 miles or so north of where I am, although we've only met at Marycon, some 2500-or-so miles away!

A SHORT RUSSIAN DRAMA:

RUSSIAN SOLDIER #1-Life sucks when you're fighting for someone else's country.

RUSSIAN SOLDIER #2-Cowboy up comrade! Eventually someone will offer us a better plan--till then....

RUSSIA-ENGLAND:Brute force, huh? I see you're playing a real finesse game.

RUSSIA-DON: If you find any spelling errors in my press just mark them in red ink and send them back.

DON-RUSSIA: How about punctuation?

~~-WELL-HOW-ABOUT-THAT-AND-NOW-IT'S-TIME-FOR-A-REAL-BLAST-OF-A-GAME-EVEN-WITH-2-ND~~

NUCLEAR ESCALATION, turn 2 - GERM WARFARE IS SUCCESSFUL

Phase 1: Budway turns up a Minuteman for IRAM; Sweeney turns up a Space Platform and 3 warheads for UTOPIA; Laurence turns up a 10 Million Propoganda; Jensen turns up an Atlas for the U.C.C.D.E. (UNITED CONFEDERATION OF CHURCES FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF EVIL); White turns up a 5 Million Propoganda.

SECRETS: Utopia hits Iran with "25 million mysteriously vaporize"; UCCDE plays Supervirus on White, who loses 5 million. (Jerry, it's your choice as to whether the next victim is Jensen or Utopia, since they are "adjasent" to you in the order.)

Phase 2: Laurance plays 10 million on White. White plays 5 million on UCCDE.

Phase 3: Utopia successfully puts up its Space Platform.

Phase 4: No final retaliations. (By the way - the phases are Turn Up Card/Play Secrets; Propoganda; Detonations; Retaliations; Card Draw.)

Phase 5: Your card(s) is:

DEADLINE for TURN 3 is MARCH 22, 1985. Your population is ____ million. Here's the press:

UTOPIA-EHLI: Oops!!

UTOPIA-UCCDE: "I have sent the Evil Doer to his maker." So sayeth the Shaper of Destinies.

DUSTIN-ALL: Ah, children, leave your pretty equabbles and follow our example. We, the PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST UNITED PLANETARY REPUBLIC ((I'll have to remember that)) OF THE WARRIORS FOR FREEDOM ((is that it yet?)) NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT have found the perfect way. We have no artificial class distinctions. All are equal. I, the First Citizen, have decreed it.

FIRST CITIZEN-EHLI: You weren't wiped out, exactly. Your population left you. Beginning to see why you lost the MSG election?

FIRST CITIZEN-JENSEN: You being a clergyman, I think that it is only right that you adminieter last rights for our dearly departed here.

PDSUPERNLF-UCCDE: Fourteen words. I guess I win, you only have nine.

~~-YOU-SEE-WHAT-DID-I-TELL-YOU-WASN'T-THAT-AMAZING-REAL-DOWN-TO-EARTH-UP-IN-SMOKE-~~

OK, while I have the extra room, I'd like to remind you that the world is coming to an end in 6 seconds. In the meantime, if you read this very fast, you can get it all in time. After having read Douglas Adams' SO LONG AND THANKS FOR ALL THE FISH, I'd like to say, and I will say, because I am saying right here, that he should have stopped with the third book, or at least given the question to Life, The Universe, And Everything. After all, if Earth was saved, then why didn't it go on to complete its intended function of figuring out what The Question is? (The answer, as everyone knows, is 42.)

This is the National
Studying, Indexing,
Organization for the Reading,
Burning of PAGE 17

and now for PAKI 2 of PRO WRESTLING.....anyway, Bearcan Sax and Phil S. the Hun are battling it out for the World Championship belt.....

Bearcan (managed by Frank Byrne) goes after Hun (managed by Stava Arnawoodian), but can't get the boot in as Hun climbs atop the ropes - here he goes, flying off - he MISSED, and OUCH, right onto the mat! Now Sax picks Hun up and throws him through the ropes onto the floor. There's real PAIN going on inside there now! Now Hun comes back in, while Sax tries for the top-of-the-rope business - but Hun gets up there and scores with a head butt to the cheers of the crowd! Now Hun bounces off the ropes, while Sax goes for a head slam - but Hun counters with a solid head butt that's causing a real hangover in Sax's head now!

AFTER 5 MINUTES: Robert "Bearcan" Sax loses 4 endurance (has 36) and gains 9 FAP (has 39); Phil S. the Hun loses 9 endurance (has 24) and gains 6 FAP (has 48)

***** HOUSE RULES CHANGES! NOTE CAREFULLY! From now on, instead of your orders being a list of moves, send me a fight-long strategy for your wrestler. Include things like "Punish the other wrestler when it appears that he can't win" or "Build up the fan appeal" or "Stall if badly hurt" or anything else you expect wrestlers to do during a match. I suggest you make your orders as detailed as you can without giving me a long list of maneuvers like you do now. ALSO, add a few mannerisms your wrestler might do (s.g. "give some body passes after every body slam", "go after the crowd when they start cheering the opponent"). MOST IMPORTANTLY, give your wrestler's "submission hold" - the hold your wrestler almost always uses to end a match; for example, a figure-four leg scissors, a reverse soufflex, a pilsdriver, or something equally as painful.

DEADLINE for the remainder of this match is MARCH 15, 1985.

~~AT-THRILLS-WHERE'S-THE-BEER-WE-WANT-BLOOD-HOW-DARE-YOU-SAY-IT'S-FAKE-WHERE'S-~~

**DIP
WARZ**

ANYWAY, the Empire, led by the NEW Emperor, Lord Sacks Fifthavsnus, who doesn't exactly exist but is there nevertheless, has ordered a PDQ Constitution & Novice Packet launched at the Linoleum Falcon, where the Diplomatic Rebels are still arguing over whose turn it is to pay for the drinks - er, FUEL, that's what it is. It may not matter much longer....

"And....one-potato, two-potato...."

"Princess Luscious," interrupts Baldo Calberchian, "can't you think of a better way to decide?"

"I have a way," answers John Pole-o. "We'll shoot it out!"

"No guns allowed!" responds Obos-l Caruso.

"It may not matter - I think the upcoming explosion that will destroy us will provide enough fuel for anybody!" Rod Seaparter panicks out.

"OK - now - up - down - left - right - what's wrong?"

"We're out of fuel...."

"All together, and - drift - drift - drift - drift...."

Back on the Emperor's Flagship...."How long until contact?"

"Well, if I hold her close enough, then it's only a few inches-"

ZOT "That's not what I meant! How long until the explosion?"

"Coming up on 5.....4.....3.....2.....1....."

Well, that's all the room I have for this issue - that's what happens when nobody in North America bothers to write an article. I hope somebody remembers this when they give out the Rod Walker awards! And yes, I will be at ORIGINS this June in Baltimore, mainly to laugh in somebody's face when ADVANCED SQUAD LEADER is delayed for another year or so due to "unforeseen problems encountered during playtesting" - mainly, playtesting hadn't come anywhere close to being completed at the time. Until then, don't forget to vote for THE LIFERS (well, nominations come first), and remember that the FIFTH ANNIVERSARY is coming up this summer sometime, so you can complain again when nobody writes any articles for it.....

BY THE WAY - HERVE, FNORD, and SUBMARINE WARFARE didn't make it in time. They will be sent out separately, if they aren't included as inserts, for the players. (Well, SW's game is separate anyway.)

PAGE 18 is MAD at these guys

1985 LIFERS AWARDS NOMINATION BALLOT

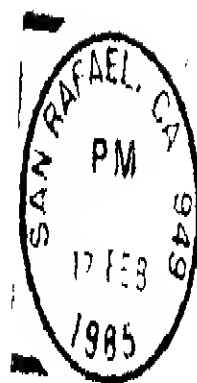
INSTRUCTIONS: You may make from zero to five nominations in each category. Place your nominees in the spaces below the category name on the ballot. (If you don't want to cut up the issue this ballot appears in, you may use any piece of paper with the categories and your nominees on it.) At the bottom, sign your name. **DEADLINE** is **APRIL 20, 1985**. Send ballot to: Don Del Grande, 142 Eliseo Drive, Greenbrae, CA 94904-1339.

DIRTIEST FOLD	HOBBY GENIUS	MOST BORING TOPIC	MOST IMPROVED 'ZINE	BEST 'ZINE FOR GAMES OTHER THAN DIP & VARIANTS
BEST 'ZINE FOR HOBBY NEWS	BEST LETTER COLUMN	BEST GAME OTHER THAN DIP & VARIANTS	BIGGEST HOBBY PERSONALITY	TRUE HOBBY MASTER

SIGN HERE: _____

(detach here?)

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